

## Mary Lou Terrien

---

**From:** Iona Ruiter <iona.ruiter@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, February 1, 2016 11:40 AM  
**To:** Mary Lou Terrien  
**Subject:** New bill against historic districts

Not sure if this is the person to email, but I oppose the new bill trying to be pushed against keeping our historic districts. If this shouldn't continuity if you could forward who it should go to.

Heritage hill for example is a nationally recognized neighborhood thanks to our historic districts, with that I'm sure it brings in tourist that choose to visit it every year. Unless a building is about to collapse, I don't see the point of knocking them down or modernizing them. People know that if they don't want to maintain an old home, don't move to that district, simple as that. And if you like the idea of old homes then you can move to it and know that it will stay looking that way. I actually wish we had more historical districts because old neighborhoods draw a lot of attention, and are very fun to look at. Rather than old homes with vinyl siding and other things. It just starts to look cheap. East Grand Rapids for example is starting to look a bit ridiculous with these beautiful homes that have been livable for 100 years and now some person decides that it's all wrong and tears it down or makes the home look completely different inside and out. It's sad, if they don't like that home buy another or build ok some property, it's ridiculous. People need to start accepting that not everything in life is perfect and deal with it. We need to continue to preserve our past, why do you think so many people are drawn to Europe? Because they respect their past and preserve it!

Iona Ruiter